



## **Advance Contract Award Notice – Rainy River Water Quality Samples Lay Collector**

### **Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)**

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities. If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

### **Definition of the requirement**

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) intends on entering into a contract with Theodore Heynes for the delivery of water samples from the Rainy River upstream sites and for the operation of its automatic sampler on the Pinewood River.

### Background:

ECCC has embarked on a new bi-national initiative in the Lake of the Woods watershed focussed on nutrient inputs to Lake of the Woods and the reduction in harmful algal blooms. As part of this initiative, it is important to capture nutrients loads entering Lake of the Woods from the Rainy River and the tributaries on the Canadian side of the border. This is a continuation of work taking place in the Rainy River in support of the former ECCC Lake of the Woods Science Initiative.

### Tasks and Deliverables:

The Contractor must collect water by boat during the ice-free season at two transects on the Rainy River. Samples will be collected for major ions, nutrients, and physicals at three locations along each transect.

During the winter season, where sufficient safe ice cover is present, the Contractor will sample by snowmobile at up to two transects on the Rainy River. The Contractor is responsible for sampling using safe procedures, and two persons will be present at all times when sampling on ice.

In addition, the Contractor must maintain and collect samples from an automated sampler located on the Pinewood River as well as a grab of water. The Contractor must visit the automated sampler on a biweekly basis or as directed by the ECCC Technical Authority during the ice-free season only. During the period of ice cover, the Contractor must drill a hole in the ice and collect a water sample once per month.

The Contractor must store samples at four (4) degrees Celsius prior to shipping. The Contractor must document a description of environmental conditions during each water collection trip. Samples must be properly labelled and shipped to the appropriate ECCC location as identified by the ECCC Technical Authority.

### **Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Capabilities (Minimum Essential Requirements)**



Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it meets the following requirements:

- A proposed resource that is able to regularly perform the Work in the Rainy River Area;
  - A minimum of one (1) year of experience performing clean water quality sampling as skilled sampling techniques are required for metals to avoid contamination;
  - Access to a boat and trailer to travel to three upstream locations on the Rainy River for sampling during the ice-free season; and
  - Access to a snowmobile as well as access to a sampling iron and ice auger in order to collect samples in the winter under ice.
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- In addition, any interested party will not have access to ECCC equipment housed on private property thus, the statement of capabilities must include the following:
    - A description of the private property that will house the ECCC equipment (ISCO) and proof that the proposed resource will have access to the property (letter from the land owner);
    - A map of the private property that will house the ISCO that demonstrates easy access to the river;
    - A photo of the intended power supply and its proximity to the river;
    - A plan to move the existing equipment safely to the proposed property and safe installation; and
    - A commitment to having a Stage-Discharge relationship developed for the new site by someone with relevant expertise (e.g. a certified Hydrologist)

### **Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier**

The Pinewood river is identified as a suitable watershed for ECCC's requirement due to its size, relatively mixed use (it includes agricultural and natural land), as well as the recent development of a new Gold Mine in the headwaters, which is an important industrial input to the Pinewood, and then Rainy River.

ECCC's automated sampler (ISCO) is housed on private property that is deemed suitable as it provides easy access to the river, it is close to the mouth, and is placed where line power is easily directed to the installation.

The current location has extensively characterized by ECCC partners to establish the Stage-Discharge relationships at the site, as well as the physical and hydrologic characteristics of the stream, making it a unique sampling location. A change of location would require extensive effort both in physically moving the site but also in establishing the new Stage-Discharge relationship, both of these efforts would be at significant cost to the interested party.

### **Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)**

The following exception(s) to the *Government Contracts Regulations* is (are) invoked for this procurement under subsection 6(d) –

"only one person is capable of performing the contract"

### **Period of the proposed contract**

#### Initial Period:

The proposed contract is for the period of April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.



**Option Period:**

The optional period is from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2024.

The contract includes up to two one-year option periods as follows:

Option Period One – April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

Option Period Two – April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

**Cost estimate of the proposed contract**

**Initial Period:**

The estimated value of the firm requirement is \$15,000.00, applicable taxes extra.

**Optional Period:**

The estimated value for the optional period is \$30,000.00, applicable taxes extra as follows:

Option Period One - \$15,000.00, applicable taxes extra; and

Option Period Two - \$15,000.00, applicable taxes extra.

The estimate value of the contract, including options is \$45,000.00, applicable taxes extra.

**Name and address of the pre-identified supplier**

Theodore Heyens

**Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities**

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the goods, services or construction services described in the ACAN may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this notice on or before the closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

**Closing date for a submission of a statement of capabilities**

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is February 26, 2021 at 3:00 PM EST.

**Inquiries and submission of statements of capabilities**

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

Heidi Noble

Procurement and Contracting

Environment and Climate Change Canada

Email: [heidi.noble@canada.ca](mailto:heidi.noble@canada.ca)